

Atty. Docket No. 2000-0085-14
USSN 10/767,316

REMARKS

Claims 1-51 are pending in the application. Claims 1-14 as originally filed have been rejected for statutory double patenting under 35 U.S.C. § 101 over applicant's assignee's United States Patent No. 6,687,562. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 10-14 were amended from the language of the claims as issued in the '562 patent in a Preliminary Amendment filed by applicants on January 28, 2004, to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the features of those claims as issued in the '562 patent.

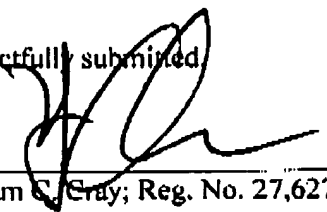
Thus the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-14 for statutory double patenting is improper and the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of claims 1-14 and allow claims 1-14.

The amendments to claim 1 in particular have been for the purpose of clarifying certain recitations in the claim as issued in the '562 patent as to antecedent basis and interconnection of components of the claimed apparatus. The claim has not been amended to overcome any prior art and has been amended without the intent or effect of narrowing the coverage of the claim in any way. In fact the claim is broader in coverage by having had possible ambiguity removed from the claim, thus making the claim cover what it perhaps would not have covered before amendment. Claims 15-51 have been added as new claims to recite the features of claims 1-14 as previously amended in means-plus-function format and as method claims and to add claims to features not previously covered by claims 1-14 as issued in the '562 patent.

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Applicants' authorizes the Commissioner to charge our Deposit Account 03-4060 in the total amount of \$120.00 for the one-month extension of time fee. The claims fee was paid with Applicants' Preliminary Amendment as filed with the subject continuation application on January 28, 2004. Applicants do not believe any other fees are due in connection with this submission, however if any other fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge our Deposit Account 03-4060 the appropriate amount.

Respectfully submitted,



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